

## Commissioner Greg White, NARUC

### Key Points

- We support the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA)
  - Government is responsible for disposal in a geologic repository
  - Users of nuclear energy pay for disposal of its waste
- DOE should **honor its contracts** to **remove spent fuel** from reactor sites
- Yucca Mountain is the approved site as of 2002, subject to licensing—we supported that
- To **not** develop a geologic repository or to develop another site requires change to NWPA
- The **Yucca license review should continue** so we can learn if it meets regulations or not
- If Yucca not possible, still need a repository so we should start over
- Before starting over, review criteria, search process, radiation standard and use of incentives
- There is a special need for consolidated interim storage for spent fuel from shutdown sites
- We request an **early signal** that **central interim storage** planning will not conflict with possible BRC strategy recommendations; and should have to wait two more years
- Indefinite reactor-site storage is **not** an acceptable solution
- IAEA recommends interim storage and geologic repositories for the long-term
- Public is easily fearful of nuclear waste **transportation**; need facts from an honest broker
- **Reprocessing** may be a long-term answer, but still require at least one repository
- Other countries seem headed toward success; we should learn from them
- Whatever disposal strategy is chosen will require a reliable financing plan
- **Nuclear Waste Fund is a mess**; without reform it is not a reliable funding means
- We recommend the Commission form a Finance committee to develop a better plan
- Other organizational alternatives besides DOE should be considered
- Big imponderable: how to ensure a disposal strategy that endures decades?
- Status quo is comfortable for Congress: they get to spend the money
- Disposal or recycling is necessary for America's Nuclear Future